CLAIMS

1. One or more computer readable media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to:

    access a configuration file associated with an application, the configuration file having a plurality of component definitions;

    create a plurality of components, each component being created based on one of the plurality of component definitions;

    inform one or more of the plurality of components of the other components of the plurality of components; and

    make the plurality of components available to the application.

2. One or more computer readable media as recited in claim 1, each of the plurality of component definitions being written in an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) format.

3. One or more computer readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein to inform each of the plurality of components of the other components of the plurality of components is to invoke a method exposed by one or more of the plurality of components.

4. One or more computer readable media as recited in claim 3, wherein to invoke the method exposed by one or more of the plurality of components is further to include, as a parameter of the method, an identification of the plurality of components.

5. One or more computer readable media as recited in claim 3, wherein the method comprises a WireUp method.

6. One or more computer readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the one or more processors, further cause the one or more processors to implement nested configuration handlers defined in the configuration file.

7. A method of using a configuration file to generate one or more components that are accessible to an application, the method comprising:

creating, in a first phase, a plurality of components defined in a configuration file; and

notifying, in a second phase, one or more of the plurality of components of the presence of the other components in the plurality of components.

8. A method as recited in claim 7, the creating comprising:

obtaining, from the configuration file, definitions for each of the plurality of components;

identifying, from the configuration file, a configuration handler to be used to create one component of the plurality of components based on one of the definitions; and

while creating the one component, identifying, from the configuration file, a child configuration handler to be used to create another component to be used by the one component.

9. A method as recited in claim 7, the notifying comprising:

invoking a method exposed by each of the one or more of the plurality of components.

10. A method as recited in claim 9, the invoking comprising:

passing, as a parameter of the method, an identification of the plurality of components.

11. One or more computer readable media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to implement nested configuration handlers defined in a configuration file.

12. One or more computer readable media as recited in claim 11, the nested configuration handlers being used to create a plurality of components that are to be made available to an application associated with the configuration file.

13. One or more computer readable media as recited in claim 12, wherein the instructions, when executed by one or more processors, further cause the one or more processors to notify one or more of the plurality of components of the presence of the other components in the plurality of components.

14. A method comprising:

receiving a request to create a plurality of components from a configuration file associated with an application;

obtaining, from the configuration file, definitions for each of the plurality of components;

identifying, from the configuration file, a configuration handler to be used to create one component of the plurality of components based on one of the definitions;

while creating the one component, identifying, from the configuration file, a child configuration handler to be used to create another component to be used by the one component; and

making the plurality of components available to the application.

15. A method as recited in claim 14, further comprising:

notifying, prior to making the plurality of components available to the application, one or more of the plurality of components of the presence of the other components in the plurality of components.

16. A method as recited in claim 14, the identifying, from the configuration file, a child configuration handler comprising:

accessing a configuration section in the identified configuration handler, the configuration section mapping component identifiers to child configuration handlers; and

locating, from the mapping, the child configuration handler based on an identifier of the other component.

17. A method as recited in claim 16, the identifier of the other component comprising an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) tag.

18. A method as recited in claim 14, the definitions for each of the plurality of components being written in an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) format.

19. A method as recited in claim 14, the identifying comprising:

identifying a tag associated with a definition of the one component;

accessing a mapping of tags to configuration handlers in the configuration file; and

identifying, using the mapping and based on the identified tag, the configuration handler to be used to create the one component.

20. A method as recited in claim 19, the identifying, from the configuration file, a child configuration handler comprising:

accessing a configuration section in the identified configuration handler, the configuration section mapping component identifiers to child configuration handlers; and

locating, from the mapping, the child configuration handler based on an identifier of the other component.

21. A system comprising:

an application; and

a configuration system to access a configuration file associated with the application, the configuration file storing one or more extensible configuration handlers, the configuration system to create a plurality of components for the application in a two-phase process, the first phase including:

obtaining, from the configuration file, definitions for each of the plurality of components;

identifying, from the configuration file, a configuration handler to be used to create one component of the plurality of components based on one of the definitions; and

while creating the one component, identifying, from the configuration file, a child configuration handler to be used to create another component to be used by the one component; and

the second phase including:

notifying one or more of the plurality of components of the presence of the other components in the plurality of components.

22.   A system as recited in claim 21, the notifying comprising:

invoking a method exposed by the one or more of the plurality of components, and passing, as part of the invoking, the plurality of components as a parameter of the method.